WORKS IN PROGRESS

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"The greatest form of sanity that anyone can exercise is to resist that force that is trying to repress, oppress, and fight down the human spirit." Mumia Abu-Jamal

Report on The Olympia Street Party

Wip News Service

The Street Party held in downtown Olympia on the 12th of June was a success thanks to downtown olympia community support and involvement.

Participants gathered in Sylvester park at 3:21pm, some dressed in costumes, some carrying signs, banners or musical instruments. At around 4:00pm, the gathered crowd marched over towards 4th avenue while those on bicycles (who had critical massed from Stupor Saturday to the park) swung around onto 4th and slowed up the traffic. Meanwhile, a truck carrying altered road signs (eg. Road Closed - Street Party Ahead - Foot Traffic Only), traffic cones and barricades were unloaded in an alley.

Simultaneously, the bikes slowed the traffic to a stop at the intersection of 4th and Capitol. Partiers grabbed the cones, barricades and signs and set them up at that intersection and started redirecting traffic. The rest of the participants then occupied the liberated space and preceded to party.

The intersection of 4th and Capitol was transformed using couches and chairs, sidewalk chalk, confetti, balloons, cardboard structures, etc.

The space was transformed using couches and chairs, sidewalk chalk, confetti, balloons, cardboard structures, etc. A van was parked in the UBank parking lot on 4th, containing a rebel sound system which was promptly hooked up to our rented 2500 watt generator. DJ Amazia kicked off the dance music with Daft Punk's "Revolution 909." The track begin's with a sample of police sirens and then, on a loud speaker: "Stop the music and go home. I repeat, stop the music and go home." That's when the rockin' beats kicked in.

Capitol City Guitars, a music store next to the Spar, had expressed before hand that they were down with the cause. During the street party the put some big speakers at the entranced to the store facing the street and pumped up some music. People wandered around blowing saxophones, strumming guitars and beating drums.

Unfortunately, the cops (who, incidentally, were NOT invited) turned up. They really were quite confused by the whole thing. They confiscated all the signs, cones and barricades. Every once in a while, a cop would wander through and grab some random object and take it away. Eventually they threatened to cut the wires on the rebel sound system so were forced to pack it up. At one point some cops came through to confiscate one of the couches but couldn't because tons of people piled onto it. Unfortunately they managed to get it later. Anyway, the police were essentially powerless and could do nothing to clear the street. People danced, created, socialized and generally had a rockin' good time. 4th Avenue (the so-called "artery" of downtown Olympia) was occupied for a full two hours.

After two hours, it was decided to better quit while ahead and the partiers marched

(Continued page 11)

TESC Graduation Ceremony -1999 The Police As Protestors

Frank Hoffman

The police caused this years graduation ceremony and the case of one of the speakers, Mumia Abu Jamal, to have national attention they would not otherwise have received.

Once the news that Governor Locke was not going to share the podium with Mumia had faded,the graduation ceremony would have been of interest only to the college community and the families of the people graduating. Instead, as various national police organisations and others opposed Mumia as a commencement speaker, and the media publicized this opposition, the 1999 TESC graduation became nationally sort of notorious. Lots of national and local controversy.

Some people got two for one - oppose Mumia and TESC at the same time. What a deal.

Mumia is on death row in Pennsylvania for shooting a cop. There is an international outcry for him to have a new trial. Personally, I think most everyone on death row in the United States, and certainly all people of color, should have a new trial. If just this one journalism class in Illinois keeps causing execution sentences to be overturned, what would result from investigations in every state? And of course many people are championing Mumia because they are opposed to the death penalty.

Many others support Mumia because they agree with his intelligent, articulate and radical criticisms of our society and system of government. They believe he is in jail because of beliefs they share. He is in jail in their place, he represents them and their cry for justice in America.

Some police evidently opposed Mumia as a graduation speaker because the justice system convicted him of killing Philadelphia Officer Faulkner and sentenced him to death for it. Why give this man prominence? Other police and people opposed to Mumia speaking seem to not like The Evergreen State College very much and want it punished for valuing the intelligence and articulateness of people they don't like and/or who frighten them for one reason or another.

Some people got two for one - oppose Mumia and TESC at the same time. What a deal. This furor may give the few legislators whose snot starts foaming at the mention of Evergreen another opportunity to attack the college.The unfortunate thing for them is that the college keeps getting praise as one of the best in the country.

Stephanie Koontz, who was the graduation keynote speaker, (not Mumia) in my mind defined the context Mumia speaks from by saying things like,"there hasn't been a greater distance between the rich and poor in this country since the 20's." That is scary. The middle class has been the political glue holding the country together this century. What will happen when it is gone -- and it is going. She urged the graduates, the last graduating class of this century, to understand their times, so they can act appropriately.

Mumia, in his taped address, called for revolution as the appropriate response. Called for people to make that choice.

Stephanie urged people to try to understand what is going on. That kind of understanding demands extraordinary independence.

The police were well mannered protestors. Holding their signs in silence. There were uniformed police from Auburn and

(Continued page 6)

Public Must Hold Police Accountable

by Pat Tassoni

The City of Olympia will be holding public hearings sometime in the next few months as part of a study of public perception of police accountability.

With controversies raging all across the country over the issue of police brutality that even the President has had to express his moral outrage at racial profiling. Some problems seem far from here, while others may not be so far from here. We should all see the connections between what is happening in New York, Chicago, Riverside, Seattle, and even Tacoma with Olympia. A department left to hold itself accountable on matters of such importance as brutality, corruption, racism, etc. is bad government. It makes sense in a checks-and-balance manner that there be civilian oversight of the police. This is Democracy 101.

Why can't we trust the Olympia police? In recent years, two officers have been forced to resign only to move on and get jobs at other departments. Is this true accountability or just an inconvenience for them? Another officer gave out a ticket for not having a litter bag and although the chief regretted such an action, he could not discipline the officer. Is this the police's idea of accountability?

And in conclusion, it is an historic fact that now is the tenth anniversary of the death-in-custody of Danny Spencer who died at the hands of the Olympia Police -- and no one has been held accountable for it.

Your testimony on what you've experienced, on what you've witnessed and on what you think is of vital importance at this time. Get involved -- it's your police after all.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

Submissions:

Correspondence, articles, art, and photographs are always welcome. Please, when possible, put articles on a 3.5" IBM-compatible disk (text preferred) or via e-mail. Artwork and photos should be camera-ready/black & white.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number. Articles may be reprinted. Please cite source.

If you don't see your issue being covered in Works In Progress, it's because you aren't writing about it! (Or aren't finding someone else to cover it!)

Send submissions to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295, wip@ olywa.net

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"Our aim is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. Works In Progress is dedicated to providing a voice for those most affected by the exclusionary and unfair practices that seek to silence the oppressed."

Anti-Discrimination Clause:

We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

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The following statement will become part of the Editorial Policy and will be the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause: *WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.*

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Friday, July 23rd

Proofreading Meeting

Tuesday, July 27th
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Letters & Briefs

Rally Against the Aryan Nations in July

On-going organizing to protest the July 10 Aryan Nations/KKK march in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Their parade permit is for July 10, but the Aryans say that they will march on Saturday, July3rd without a permit. Whatever day, we need you to be there!

The King County Labor Council passed a motion to picket a KKK gathering on Sunday, July 4th at the Enumclaw City Hall (1339 Griffin Ave.) in Washington state. Counter demonstration being organized by KCLC at (206) 441-7102.

A work party is on Thursday, July 1, 7:30pm. Help make picket signs, banners, phone calls, prepare food, and more. A hearty dinner, with vegetarian option, available, at 6:30pm for a $6.50 donation. New Freeway Hall, 5018 Rainier Ave. S., Seattle. Hosted by Radical Women. For more information, rides or childcare, call 206-722-6057. Everyone welcome. Wheelchair accessible.

Stop-The-Bombing Vigils

The Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation (and many other folks) hold weekly vigils against the bombings on Kosovo and the sanctions against Iraq downtown across from Percival Landing (at the fountain) on **Fridays from 4:30-5:30pm**.

Bring a sign! Bring your voice! Bring some creativity!

Welfare Rights Organizing Coalition

WROC's planning and organizing meetings take place the **first Tuesday of each month from 5:30pm until 8pm at First United Methodist Church**, 5th and Boundary, downtown. WROC's support and information meeting is the third Tuesday of the month at Evergreen Vista Apartments, on the West Side of Olympia. Dinner and free childcare are provided at all meetings, and people can call 352-9716 for more info.

Coalition of Low-Income Power

CLIP is planning a garage sale fundraiser later this summer and is seeking donations of quality used goods to sell. If you have something to donate please call 956-9235. CLIP is the WROC, Tenants Union, TU-LIP, Enterprise for Equity, Sound Exchange.

Tenants' Union

Come and learn your rights as a tenant on the **second Monday (July 12th) of each month starting at 6pm in the downtown Olympia Library.** This is free public clinic. Also a meeting will follow and you will find out how to volunteer for the organization. For more information call 956-9235.

Dance O' Dance

Open invitation from "Dance O' Dance" to any age, any style dancers to appear LIVE on public-access television in Thurston county. This hour-long program by and for dancers is taped on the fourth Wednesday of each month and re-runs every Wednesday at 4pm & Friday at 10pm on channel 29. "Dance O' Dance" is in its fourth season on TCTV.

Upcoming shows will be on July 28th, August 25th, & September 22nd. The themes for the upcoming show are: Independance O' Interdepen-dance day (4th of July), the Revolution(s), Patriotism, Friendly Fire, Picnics, Summer Camp/ Summer School, Yo-Yo a Go-Go, Lakefair, etc.

Dancers should arrive at TCTV studio "A", 440 Yauger way, off Mud Bay, by 2PM for instructions, warm-ups, & refreshments. Contact the producer for more details: Justin B. Wright, 753-9665, or e-mail <justinb@writeme.com>

Dick Gaughan in concert

Citizens Band's Anarcoustic Productions is proud to present Dick Gaughan in concert **July 30, 8:30pm at the Capital Playhouse,** 612 E. 4th (across from the downtown Safeway). Tickets, $10 in advance and $12 at the door, are available at Rainy Day Records, CD Connection and Traditions Fair Trade. For more information call 357-8323.

Dick Gaughan, considered by many the "head and heart of Scotland" is a singer ans songwriter whose hard-hitting songs of the dispossessed are delivered with electrifying passion. Gaughan's velvet voice is both tender and powerful, infusing audiences with the depth of his anger, humor and love. His is a superb guitarist, called by Martin Carthy "the best player on the folk scene."

Dick himself says, "Folk music is dangerous stuff. It's subversive to admit that

(Continued page 11)

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JULY 1999

From George Washington's Farewell Address

"...a passionate attachment of one Nation for another produces a variety of evils. Sympathy for the favourite nation, facilitating the illusion of an imaginary common interest, in cases where no real common interest exists, and infusing into one the enmities of the other, betrays the former into a participation in the quarrels & Wars of the latter, without adequate inducement or justification: It leads also to concessions to the favourite Nation of privileges denied to others, which is apt doubly to injure the Nation making the concessions--by unnecessarily parting with what ought to have been retained -- and by exciting jealousy, ill will, and a disposition to retaliate, in the parties from whom eql priviledges are withheld: And it gives to ambitious, corrupted, or deluded citizens (who devote themselves to the favourite Nation) facility to betray, or sacrifice the interests of their own country, without odium, sometimes even with popularity; gilding with the appearances of a virtuous sense of obligation a commendable deference for public opinion, or a laudable zeal for public good, the base or foolish compliances of ambition corruption or infatuation.

As avenues to foreign influence in innumerable ways, such attachments are particularly alarming to the truly enlightened and independent Patriot. How many opportunities do they afford to tamper with domestic factions, to practice the arts of seduction, to mislead public opinion, to influence or awe the public Councils! Such an attachment of a small or weak, towards a great & powerful Nation, dooms the former to be the satellite of the latter. "

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JUNE S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	AUGUST S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	"Observe good faith & justice towards all Nations." -- George Washington		**1** 1998: State Dept of Ecology says spill of road sealant into Capitol Lake didn't harm fish, chemicals degrade on own	**2** 1915: Bomb explodes in reception room of U S Senate 1917: St. Louis: Blacks shot, hanged in vicious race riot	**3** 1919: US bans marriages of US soldiers and Germans 1998: Canada/WA state agree on salmon limits
4 1827- Slavery abolished in NY State 1913: Troops fire on gold mine strikers in Johannesburg S. Africa; 40 killed	**5** 1998: Protestants attack British troops who were blocking a march route through a Catholic area	**6** 1995: The prosecution rests in the O.J. Simpson trial 1998: Roy Rogers, King of the Cowboys, dies	**7** 1998: Appellate court rules Secret Service employees must tell grand jury of Clinton's dealings w/ Lewinsky	**8** 1998: Dow Corning agrees to $3.2 billion compensation settlement to 400,000 women for injuries due to implants	**9** 1850: After serving only 1 year and 4 months of his term, Pres. Taylor dies in the White House of a typhus infection	**10** 1902: Explosion kills 125 miners in Pennsylvania 1997: U.S. House votes to eliminate funding for NEA
11 1998: NAACP chairman Julian Bond calls I-200 "a fight between good and evil and evil must not win"	**12** 1998: Three young Catholic brothers burn to death in their home in a sectarian attack in Northern Ireland	**13** 1998: GM announces recall of 1 million cars after 130 reported injuries from air bags bursting open without cause	**14** 1775: Spanish land at Pt Grenville 1998: Dow reaches new high: 9,245.54 1998: Multistate tobacco deal collapses	**15** 1998: US House passes legislation to toughen juvenile abortion parent notification regulations	**16** 1998: Federal Reserve says production at the nation's factories plunged 0.6% in June; biggest drop in 5 years	**17** 1998: Pres Clinton's Secret Service protectors questioned before a grand jury 1998: Yeltsin speaks at service for czar
18 1964: Killing of 15-year-old black boy by off-duty white policeman in New York leads to outbreak of violence	**19** 1995: Dow Jones drops 135, recovers w/ only 57.41 loss 1998: Tsunami hits Papua New Guinea; 3,000 feared dead	**20** 1894: Pullman Strike, caused by Pullman Car Co. reducing wages, broken by Justice Dept to continue US mail	**21** 1925 John T. Scopes is found guilty of teaching evolution 1906: French Capt Dreyfus is vindicated	**22** 1996: Dole receives $6,650 pension check 1998: International research team has produced 3 generations of cloned mice	**23** 1998: Rogue dogs attack, kill 20+ sheep in Rochester 1998: West side Perry Street water tower is knocked down	**24** 1937: 5 "Scottsboro Boys" released 1998: Gunman opens fire in US Capitol killing two police officers
25 1965: Bob Dylan uses electric instruments and is booed off stage 1985: Rock Hudson has AIDS	**26** 1998: AT&T and British Telecommunications corporations announce merger of their international assets	**27** 1998: Lewinsky ends 6 months of silence and admits affair 1998: Ralph Nader urges Bill Gates to share his wealth	**28** 1998: Temp rises to 99 degrees, breaking 1958 record of 98 1998: Lewinsky receives immunity from prosecution	**29** 1998: Starr asks FBI to test dress owned by Lewinsky for identifying DNA material that may be linked to Clinton	**30** 1953: Race riots in Chicago's housing project after black family moves in 1998: "Buffalo Bob" Smith dies	**31** 1979: Chrysler Company asks the US government for $1 billion loan. Congress and Carter give $1.5 billion

Who Won?

Ron Jacobs

If you rejoice in victory, then you delight in killing. - Number 31, Tao Te Ching

So what did Clinton and his cohorts win? Respect? Justice? Peace for the 21st century? Unlikely. What NATO really won in its murderous bombing campaign was the right to be known as the biggest bully on the planetary playground. Once again, the U.S. war machine proved itself to be the most capable of destroying as much of the countryside as it wished to destroy and murdering as many people as it desired. In addition, it destroyed any real moral leadership it may have attributed to itself. Of course, those of us who consistently resist the imperial beast know that the western governments (and perhaps any government) have no moral authority. However, many of those governments' subjects honestly believe their leaders operate from a sense of what is right and wrong, not what is most profitable for them. Let's hope this recent exercise in mass murder has convinced some of those citizens that this is certainly not the case.

In the next several weeks and months the world will be provided evidence—real and contrived—of the Yugoslav military's atrocities against the Albanians of Kosovo. This will be used to justify its own barbarism from the sky. There will even be more war crimes indictments handed down against various Serbian officers. Unfortunately for the future of the world it is unlikely any of NATO's leaders will face indictment for their excesses. As some noted at the beginning of this war, impersonal death from the skies is no less deadly than that perpetrated by an enemy fifty feet away. In fact, on a purely human level one could argue that the latter is preferable: at least you can see it coming.

The institutionalization of murder begun by the Nazis in their death camps and further enhanced by the U.S. Air Force in its wars since then removes the killer from his/her act, thus making the act easier to repeat. As mainstream journals reported during the air war on Yugoslavia, bombing was like going to work. The pilots left their homes on the U.S. air base in the morning, got in their fully armed warplanes, flew over their target and released their death and destruction. Then it was back home to the wife and kids. This is the ultimate in the automation of death. Until the citizens of NATO countries understand that the death caused by these technological wonders of modern warfare is just as hideous as that caused by less advanced weaponry, they will not oppose NATO's military adventures on a scale that can prevent them from occurring. To do this is not an easy task. It took the people of the world many years to expose the U.S. crimes in Vietnam.

The only people who can stop the supremacy of globalism backed up by the military might of NATO are the citizens of the world.

What the bombardment of the Balkans does make clear, however, is that the only people who can stop the supremacy of globalism backed up by the military might of NATO are the citizens of the world. We must take the world back from the men and women who would rule this planet by any means necessary: exploitation, oppression by force or duplicity, and if they deem it so, by war. What this means, plain and simple, is that every opportunity to oppose the designs of the corporations, banks and their military backup must be taken. If Bill Clinton, Tony Blair, Mr. Solano, General Clark, Madeleine Albright or any others of their ilk show up in your town, protest their visit. Bring it home to the people who live around you that these leaders' world order must be opposed. Refuse to cooperate with their plans. Refuse to cheer their victories. If an opportunity arises to create a new people-not-profit oriented endeavor, join in. Support humanity, not humanity's destruction. There is no victory in death.

Ron Jacobs is a member of the Instant Anti War Action Group in Burlington, VT.

Hard Work Ahead in Kosovo

Jerome Johnson

The bombing is over, and the peacekeeping phase has begun in Yugoslavia.

The NATO Alliance's approach to the Kosovo Peacekeeping Force (KFOR) has echoes of post-World War II Europe. Like Germany in 1945, Kosovo in 1999 is divided into sectors, each operated by a NATO ally. The US has the eastern sector, adjacent to Macedonia and Hungary; the French the north, and with it the border with Serbia; the Germans are in the center and the Italians in the west. As in 1945, the occupation will be commanded by the NATO Supreme Commander, an American four-star Army general. And as is traditional in NATO, his deputy is a European officer. Today this officer is British Army Lieutenant General Sir Michael Jackson, who commands all NATO forces in Kosovo province.

But unlike 1945, the role of Russia in the occupation is undecided and uncertain. At this writing, senior NATO and Russian officials are in Helsinki, Finland, discussing just what role the Russians will have in the occupation and how they will fit into the NATO command/control/communication (C-3) structure. These discussions began during the air campaign, but were exacerbated by the seizure of the Pristina airport in mid-June by a company sized Russian unit, apparently without any coordination with NATO. The conventional wisdom holds that this was done to remind NATO that Russia is a Major Power Worthy of Respect, especially given the intense Russian diplomacy which was such a big part in persuading Milosevic to withdraw from Kosovo. The Russians believe they should be treated as an equal partner in the occupation, with a sector of their own. They feel entitled to this role, since Russian diplomacy was so prominent and they have a long relationship with the Balkans. Moreover, they want to operate independently of the NATO structure, coordinating with NATO as they see fit. The Russians seem to want it both ways: an equal status in the occupation team but the right to do what they want.

As far as NATO is concerned, the Russians had absolutely no right to unilaterally take the Pristina airport. In NATO's view, the Russians have been an irritant from the beginning. First the Russians made excuses for the Serbs without pressuring them to stop atrocities. As the crisis escalated over last winter and early spring, the Russians publicly voiced opposition to military action even as ethnic cleansing continued unabated, yet almost none of their considerable leverage to stop it. When the air campaign began — hurting their Serb friends — the Russians complained loud and long, and only then did they put forward a real diplomatic effort. Even that effort was directed at relieving Serb pain, not stopping the atrocities. Indeed, a big part of Russian opinion even agreed with the obscene Serb assertion that the floods of refugees derived from NATO bombing, not Serb aggression.

As a result, NATO — and I — are very skeptical of Russian willingness and ability to police the Serbs for the duration of the peacekeeping mission. My skepticism increased sharply when I watched the news and saw the heroes' welcome the Russians received as they rolled into Pristina. Cheering crowds thronged the road, tossing flowers and vodka. If these same Serbs renew ethnic terror in a Russian zone, would the Russians use force to stop them?

Who will foot the estimated $1 billion bill for reconstruction, refugee relief, and resettlement of displaced persons?

To a shorter extent, NATO has the same problem with the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), the hotheaded militants who started this whole mess. A big reason why Milosevic agreed to a cease-fire is that disarming the KLA is part of the deal. Since their arrival in Kosovo, NATO forces have been disarming the KLA, sometimes at their own check-points. Although many KLA units are in at least token compliance, several KLA units have stated that they will not disarm; already one KLA unit has had their weapons confiscated at gunpoint by US Marines. Isolated incidents of vengeance against the Serbs are already occurring, emphasizing the importance of NATO's presence as an even-handed policeman. So far, the NATO presence has deterred widespread, organized revenge-seeking. But some KLA militants will settle for nothing less than independence for Kosovo, which is Not part of the current agreement. I am very concerned that the KLA may start using the NATO sectors as cover to wage guerrilla war against Yugoslavia for this purpose, the Russians loudly object, the Serbs retaliate (which would be their right) — and there is a new crisis.

All of these issues demonstrate the overwhelming need for an international conference on Yugoslavia/Kosovo, to work out a long-term regional political settlement. If the post-W.W.II model is continued, then it is critical that elections are held as soon as possible to create a provisional provincial government in Kosovo. This government would have two main goals, which should be pursued simultaneously: the reconstruction of Kosovo AND negotiating Kosovo's final status. War will erupt again if this doesn't happen. Such negotiations should not be hampered by conditions from other countries (like an insistence on Milosevic's departure from power). The talk should be held either in Geneva or New York, with the Yugoslavs and Kosovars solving their own issues. NATO and Russia (and I believe the Russians will eventually agree to a team player format) must stand back and let the principals work out their own differences, with involvement from their neighboring countries in the region.

There are other big questions. How will those responsible for the genocide in Kosovo be held accountable? Who will foot the estimated $1 billion bill for reconstruction, refugee relief, and resettlement of displaced persons? And more immediately, how well will NATO and the relief organizations prepare a ravaged Kosovo for the coming winter? Indeed, planning for a "Pristina Airlift" supply/relief system should start now in Washington and Brussels.

But then, I'm just a civil right guy. What do I know?

In South Africa, Thabo Mbeki prepares to lead a nation into the 21st Century.

In Togo, final talks bring hope of peace to a ravaged Sierre Leone.

Is south Asia, the new Calcutta-Dhaka bus route has opened.

And in Olympia, a community dances in the streets, celebrating diversity during Gay Pride Month.

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U.S. Navy kills person in Puerto Rico

Carmelo Ruiz

If you're looking for deadly U.S. military bombing errors, you don't have to go all the way to Yugoslavia. They're happening right here at home in Puerto Rico.

On the evening of April 19, one person -- David Sanes Rodriguez -- was killed and four others wounded by bombs dropped by two U.S. F-18 fighter planes on the Puerto Rican island town of Vieques. The victims were working as security guards in an observation tower used for monitoring military exercises on the island. Vieques is a tiny island situated between the main island of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The Navy acquired three-quarters of the island in 1941 and has been using it as a firing range ever since. Vieques is subjected to relentless bombardment from both sea and air. The sounds of heavy artillery, missiles and low-flying warplanes are often heard in residential areas.

This is not the first time that the U.S. military has caused accidents and tragedies on the island. In 1955, 13-year-old Chuito Legrand was killed by unexploded ordnance. Twenty years later, a cruise missile fell next to a Vieques school, and in October 1993, four 500-pound bombs were dropped only one mile away from the Isabel Segunda village, missing their intended target by 10 miles.

But bombs and missiles are not the only danger. Military personnel have brought along with them drug addiction, prostitution and street violence, which were virtually unheard of on the island in the pre-Navy years. Brawls and riots involving U.S. Marines are not uncommon.

Vieques has also been subjected to environmental destruction. The Navy has destroyed coral reefs, lagoons, mangroves, coconut groves and beaches. It has put in harm's way endangered species, fish and other marine organisms. According to the Navy's own data, Vieques' underground water contains toxic chemicals and carcinogens. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) studies have determined that the island's air has unhealthy amounts of particulate matter and that its soil has iron levels well above normal.

The island's population suffers from abnormally high rates of asthma and lupus. According to studies by the Puerto Rico Health Department, the cancer rate in Vieques is 26 percent above Puerto Rico's average. The people of Vieques have had enough. On April 21, a group of local fishermen and supporters -- from both Vieques and the main island of Puerto Rico -- entered the restricted Navy area and set up a permanent vigil demanding demilitarization of the island.

The people of Vieques have had enough. On April 21, a group of local fishermen and supporters -- from both Vieques and the main island of Puerto Rico -- entered the restricted Navy area and set up a permanent vigil

The protesters know full well that this is no camping trip. There is no drinking water, food or vegetation where they are camping, which is dotted with bomb craters. The nearest civilian settlement is 80 minutes away by boat. Puerto Rico Sen. Ruben Berrios, president of the Puerto Rico Independence Party, is also camping out in the Navy area. The senator has been jailed before for civil disobedience. In 1971 he and a group of party members camped out in a target practice area then used by the Navy in another Puerto Rican island town, Culebra, which lies to the north of Vieques. For that action, Berrios and a dozen others were jailed for months. But their sacrifice was not for nothing. In 1975 the Navy finally left Culebra.

In the name of peace and democracy, the U.S. military is wreaking havoc, not just in the Balkans, but also on Vieques. The war is hitting closer to home than many people think.

Carmelo Ruiz is a Puerto Rican journalist and a research associate at the Institute for Social Ecology in Vermont. Copyright Carmelo Ruiz. All rights reserved. Progressive Media Project 409 E. Main Street Madison, WI 53703 608-257-4626 Fax:608-257-3373

Statement of Support for Native Peoples of the Pacific Northwest

We, the undersigned, wish to express our solidarity with native peoples of the Pacific Northwest, who are currently suffering from a racist backlash to the recent hunting of a whale by Makah people.

The backlash has included bomb threats against native schools, and threats to shoot native people as "revenge" for the whale. Native people have been refused service by white owners of stores and other businesses in the Pacific Northwest. One native man was beaten so badly he is now in a wheelchair.

This declaration is not about whether or not the Makah whale hunt is "right" or "wrong". It is an assertion that racism is always wrong.

While we, the undersigned, have varying opinions about the hunting of whales, we agree on the following:

1) Racism in all forms must be opposed. We reject any attempts by environmentalists, animal rights activists, or any other groups to use racism to gain support for a cause.

2) We call on all groups and individuals concerned about the whaling to take a strong stand against the racist backlash that is currently happening as a result of racist and inflammatory rhetoric used by environmental and animal rights groups such as the Sea Shepherd Society.

3) We recognize and support the sovereignty of all native nations, including the Makah. We reject attempts to use this whale hunt to undermine native nations struggling to assert their sovereignty.

4) We reject the polarization of this issue into "Makah vs. the whales". We believe that this oversimplification of the Makah whale hunt plays up racist stereotypes instead of addressing questions of animal exploitation. As the Makah have pointed out, non-native people kill animals deliberately every day for food, clothing, entertainment, and experimentation, with no regard for the suffering of the animals or the devastating effects on the overall environment; non-native industry is responsible for the deaths of countless whales every year.

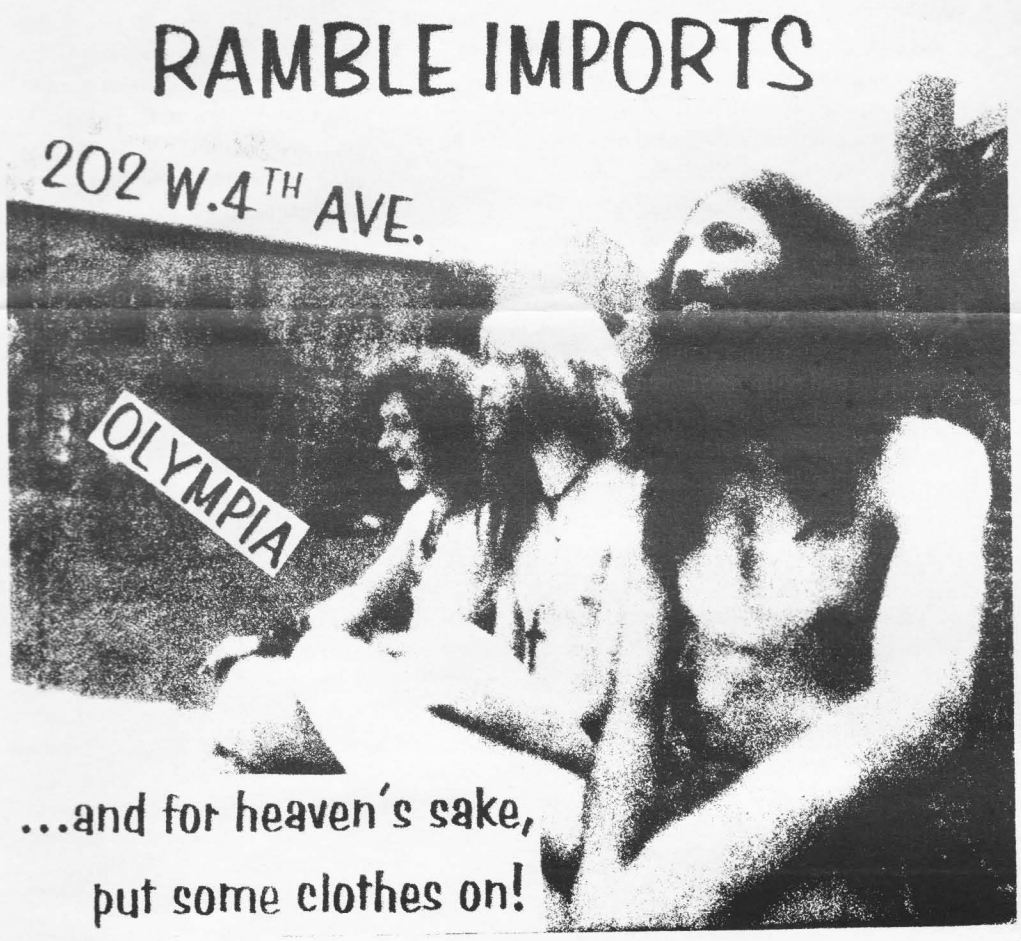
While we, the undersigned, may differ in our opinions of the Makah whale hunt itself, we are united in our condemnation of the racist tactics which are being used to oppose the hunt.

We fully support native peoples of the Pacific Northwest and offer our assistance to work towards stopping the racist backlash.

To express your support by signing this declaration, contact <sisis@envirolink.org>

Signed: Settlers In Support of Indigenous Sovereignty - Victoria, BC, Canada Northwest Leonard Peltier Support Network Anti-Racist Emergency Action Network Industrial Transportation Project—Industrial Workers of the World, Bayou La Rose

S.I.S.I.S. Settlers In Support of Indigenous Sovereignty P.O. Box 8673, Victoria, "B.C." "Canada" V8X 3S2 <http://kafka.uvic.ca/~vipirg/SISIS/SISmain.html>



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(TESC/Mumia, continued)

Snohomish County, one from Seattle and Thurston County Sheriff John Wayne. There were several Olympia police in civilian clothes. A cop from Philadelphia did a lot of calm, face to face talk with people supporting Mumia. I did not see one person of color among the police or their supporters.

The graduates, whether for or against Mumia or indifferent, seemed to be having a good time. TESC demands a lot from its students. At least for a moment,they had no responsibilities, no books to read for seminar, no papers to write.

Mumia Abu Jamal is still on death row. The police are still out among us. To understand what is going on, we need to understand both. We need the police. Everybody wants to feel safe. And is Mumia in jail because he refuses to be afraid of the police? Who do the police work for and why are some of them afraid of Mumia?

Good bye Jane Jervis. Good luck graduates.

Courageous Resisters to be Honored

People at the center of heated national political controversies will be among those receiving the 1999 Courageous Resister Awards. Refuse & Resist!, the national anti-repression organization, will present the awards Sunday to individuals and organizations who have risked careers, and even their lives, to stand up to injustice and repression.

Abner Louima, whose name has become synonymous with police brutality, will make a rare public appearance to accept his award for "bravely facing his torturers" of the NYPD, including his testimony at the recent trial ending in convictions of two NYPD officers for the attack.

Methodist Minister Rev. Gregory Dell of Chicago was subjected to a church trial and removed from his church duties for conducting a service to sanctify the union of two men, preceding the debate by California Methodists beginning today over whether to sanction 68 ministers for performing a similar ceremony.

Students, faculty and President Jane L. Jervis of Evergreen (WA) State College are being honored for standing firm against police and governmental protest in having death row political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal as a commencement speaker.

They and 10 other individuals and groups from poet Adrienne Rich to nurse Emily Lyons, injured in the Alabama abortion clinic bombing, will receive the awards, which are designed to support those who act against "today's politics of cruelty", according to Dr. Robert Rockwell of Refuse & Resist!

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Transcript of Mumia Abu-Jamal's remarks at TESC Commencement Ceremony

A Life Lived, Deliberately

June 11, 1999

Welcome, students of Evergreen, and thank you for this invitation. On the MOVE. Long live John Africa. I feel privileged to address your chosen theme, not because I'm some kind of avatar, but because a life lived deliberately has been the example of people I admire and respect, such as Malcolm X; Dr. Huey P. Newton, founder of the Black Panther Party; like Ramona Africa, who survived the hellish bombing by police of May 13, 1985; or the MOVE Nine, committed rebels now encaged for up to 100 years in Pennsylvania hellholes despite their innocence, solely for their adherence to the teachings of John Africa. These people, although of quite diverse beliefs, ideologies, and lifestyles, shared something in common: a commitment to revolution and a determination to live that commitment deliberately in the face of staggering state repression.

No doubt some of you are disconcerted by my use of the term "revolution." It's telling that people who claim with pride to be proud Americans would disclaim the very process that made such a nationality possible, even if it was a bourgeois revolution. Why was it right for people to revolt against the British because of "taxation without representation," and somehow wrong for truly unrepresented Africans in America to revolt against America? For any oppressed people, revolution, according to the Declaration of Independence, is a right.

Malcolm X, although now widely acclaimed as a Black nationalist martyr, was vilified at the time of his assassination by Time magazine as "an unashamed demagogue" who "was a disaster to the civil rights movement." *The New York Times* would describe him as a "twisted man" who used his brains and oratorical skills for "an evil purpose." Today, there are schools named for him, and recently a postage stamp was even issued in his honor.

Dr. Huey P. Newton, PhD, founded the Black Panther Party in October of 1966 and created one of the most militant, principled organizations American Blacks had ever seen. J. Edgar Hoover of the FBI targeted the party, using every foul and underhanded method they could conceive of to neutralize the group, which they described as the "number one threat to national security."

Sister Ramona Africa of the MOVE organization survived one of the most remarkable bombings in American history, one where Philadelphia police massacred eleven men, women, and children living in the MOVE house and destroyed some 61 homes in the vicinity. She did seven years in the state prison on riot charges, came out, and began doing all she could to spread the teachings of John Africa, the teachings of revolution, and to free her imprisoned brothers and sisters of MOVE from their repressive century in hellish prison cells.

These people dared to dissent, dared to speak out, dared to reject the status quo by becoming rebels against it. They lived—and some of them continue to live—lives of deliberate will, of willed resistance to a system that is killing us. Remember them. Honor their highest moments. Learn from them. Are these not lives lived deliberately?

This system's greatest fear has been that folks like you, young people, people who have begun to critically examine the world around them, some perhaps for the first time, people who have yet to have the spark of life snuffed out, will do just that: learn from those lives, be inspired, and then live lives of opposition to the deadening status quo.

Let me give you an example. A young woman walks into a courtroom, one situated in the cradle of American democracy—that's Philadelphia — to do some research for a law class. This woman, who dreams of becoming a lawyer, sits down and watches the court proceedings and is stunned by what she sees. She sees defendants prevented from defending themselves, manhandled in court, and cops lying on the stand with abandon. She saw the judge as nothing more than an administrator of injustice and saw U.S. law as an illusion. Her mind reeled, as she said to herself, "They can't do that," as her eyes saw them doing whatever they wanted to. Well, that young woman is now known as Ramona Africa, who lived her life deliberately after attending several sessions of the MOVE trial in Philadelphia. After that farce she knew she could never be a part of the legal system that allowed it, and she found more truth in the teachings of John Africa than she ever could in the law books which promised a kind of justice that was foreign to the courtrooms she had seen. The contrast between America's lofty promises and the truth of its legal repression inspired her to be a revolutionary, one that America has tried to bomb into oblivion.

What is the difference between Ramona Africa and you? Absolutely nothing, except she made that choice.

Similarly, Huey Newton studied U.S. law with close attention when he was a student at Merritt Junior College in west Oakland, California. His studies convinced him that the laws must be changed, and the famous Black Panther Party ten-point program and platform proves, then and now, that serious problems still face the nation's Black communities, such as all the predominantly white juries still sending Blacks to prison, and cops still treating Black life as a cheap commodity. Witness the recent Bronx execution of Ghanaian immigrant Amadou Diallo, where cops fired 41 shots at an unarmed man in the doorway of his own apartment building.

Huey, at least in his earlier years, lived his life deliberately and set the mark as a revolutionary. What was the difference between Huey Newton and you? Absolutely nothing, except he made the choice. Each of the MOVE Nine—including the late Merle Africa, who died under somewhat questionable circumstances after nineteen years into an unjust prison sentence—members of the MOVE organization whose trial initially attracted the attention of a young law student named Ramona decades ago, was a person who came to question their lives as lived in the system. Some were U.S. Marines, some were petty criminals, some were carpenters, but all came to the point of questioning the status quo, deeply, honestly, and completely—irrevocably. One by one, they turned their back on a system that they knew couldn't care less if they lived or died and joined a revolution after being exposed to the stirring teachings of John Africa. They individually chose to live life deliberately and joined MOVE. And although they are individuals—Delbert Africa, Janet Africa, Phil Africa, Janine Africa, Chuckie Africa, Mike Africa, Debbie Africa, and Eddie Africa—they are also united as MOVE members, united in heart and soul.

What's the difference between the MOVE Nine and you? Absolutely nothing, except they made the choice.

Now, unless I miss my guess, Evergreen is not a predominantly Black institution, and my choices heretofore given may seem somewhat strange to too many of you, for far too many of you may identify yourselves by the fictional label of "white." In truth, as I'm sure many of you know, race is a social construct. That said, it is still a social reality formed by our histories and our cultures. For those of you still bound by such realities however, I have some names for you like John Brown, like Dr. Alan Berkman, Susan Rosenberg, Sue Africa, Marilyn Buck, for examples. Each of these people are or were known in America as white. They are all people I know of, who I admire, love, and respect. They all are or were revolutionaries.

John Brown's courageous band's attack on Harper's Ferry was one deeply religious man's strike against the hated slavery system and was indeed considered one of the opening salvos of the U.S. Civil War. Dr. Alan Berkman, Susan Rosenberg, and Marilyn Buck were all anti-imperialists who fought to free Black revolutionary Assata Shakur from an unjust and cruel bondage. They are the spiritual grandsons and granddaughters of John Brown. Dr. Alan Berkman, Marilyn Buck, and Susan Rosenberg were treated like virtual traitors to white supremacy and thrown into American dungeons. Buck and Rosenberg remain so imprisoned today. They lived lives deliberately and chose liberation as their goals, understanding that our freedom is interconnected. They chose the hard road of revolution, yet they chose. And but for that choice they are just like each of you seated here tonight, people who saw the evils of the system and resolved to fight it. Period.

Now, the name Sue Africa may not be known to you. She's what you may call white. Yet when she joined the MOVE organization, the system attacked her bitterly for what was seen as a betrayal of her white-skinned privilege. On May 13, 1985 she lost her only son because the Philadelphia police bombed the house she was living in. She served over a decade in prison where the guards vilely taunted her in the hours and days after the bombing. When she came out, she went right to work to rebuild the MOVE organization in Philadelphia. She lives her life deliberately by promoting John Africa's revolution each and every day. Except for that choice, she's just like you.

Now, some of you are sure to be wondering, "Well, if this guy's gig is with revolutionaries, why is he saying this to us?" The answer of course is "Why not?" OK, I know you ain't supposed to answer a question with a question, but do I expect you guys and gals who've just received your degrees to chuck it all for so nebulous a concept as revolution? Nope. I ain't that dumb. The great historians Will and Ariel Durant teach us that history in the large is the conflict of minorities. The majority applauds the victor and supplies the human material of social experiment. Now, I take that to mean that social movements are begun by relatively small numbers of people who, as catalysts, inspire, provoke, and move larger numbers to see and share their vision. Social movements can then become social forces that expand our perspectives, open up new social possibilities, and create the consciousness for change. To begin this process, we must first sense that (1) the status quo is wrong, and (2) the existing order is not amenable to real, meaningful, and substantive transformation.

Out of the many here assembled, it is the heart of he or she that I seek who looks at a life of vapid materialism, of capitalist excess, and finds it simply intolerable. It may be 100 of you, or 50, or even ten, or even one of you who makes that choice. I'm here to honor and applaud that choice and to warn you that, though the suffering may indeed be great, it is nothing to the joy of doing the right thing.

Malcolm, Dr. Huey P. Newton, Ramona Africa, the MOVE Nine, Dr. Alan Berkman, Susan Rosenberg, John Brown, Susan Africa, Marilyn Buck, Geronimo ji Jaga, Leonard Peltier, Angela Davis, and others, all of them people just like you, felt compelled to change the conditions they found intolerable. I urge you to join that noble tradition.

I thank you all, and wish you well.

On the MOVE. Long live John Africa.

From Death Row, this is Mumia Abu-Jamal.

An Open Letter to Mrs. Daniel Faulkner and Justice for Police Officer Daniel Faulkner, Inc.

Document signed by some members of the faculty, staff, alumni, and community and distributed to the graduation ceremony at The Evergreen State College in response to the specious ads in the previous weekend's Olympian paid for by the FOP and signed by Maureen Faulkner.

6/9/99

First, we would like to extend our sincerest condolences to Mrs. Maureen Faulkner on the loss of her husband, Daniel, in 1981. The loss of a loved one is always a severe blow which takes years to recover from, and that loss should not be ignored. However, your presence in Olympia and your open letter (paid ads) in the *Olympian* this past weekend were not meant to elicit sympathy and condolences, but to disrupt the 1999 commencement of The Evergreen State College. Your purpose for doing so is that you believe that the murderer of officer Faulkner is one of the featured speakers at the commencement. You are mistaken. The featured speaker is Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Abu-Jamal is a "convicted cop-killer" only in the same sense that Nelson Mandela was a "convicted terrorist." Abu-Jamal was fraudulently convicted and framed and has never been convicted on evidence beyond a "reasonable doubt." Despite what you list as "facts" in your paid ad, an examination of the actual facts of the case demonstrates this. There are several police inconsistencies about his gun not matching the lethal weapon; his jury was severely limited in the number of Black jurors allowed; his counsel was ineffective; his judge (a member of the police union) has sentenced more people to death than any other sitting judge in the U.S.; witnesses were coerced by the police during his trial and during his appeals; and his so-called "confession" was suddenly remembered by the local police two months after he was alleged to have stated it. The attending physician, who was with him the entire time, has stated that he uttered no confession. His appeals to rehear the evidence have been heard by the same judge, Albert Sabo, who originally denied him a fair trial.

Obviously in a short letter it is not possible to "prove" the above assertions, any more than your organization proved the so-called "facts" in your ad. I would suggest that the interested reader check out various sources such as www.mumia.org; www.prisonactivist.org; www.iacenter.org. These web sites will provide numerous links. Books to be examined include Leonard Weinglass, *Race for Justice*; Refuse and Resist, *Resource Book on the Case of Mumia Abu-Jamal*; and Abu-Jamal's books, *Live from Death Row* and *Death Blossoms*. Also see the documentary *Mumia Abu-Jamal: A Case for Reasonable Doubt?* Several of us have been following this case for years, including examining your web site which lays out the prosecution case, and have found it to be full of the same disinformation which framed the original case and also adds new racist dimensions (such as the attacks on the NAACP and the absurd "study" on how the death penalty is not racially influenced). The very fact that the "facts" of the case are seriously in dispute is reason enough, in itself, for the necessity of a new trial by a judge of impeccable impartiality and integrity.

In the open letter-paid ad, it is stated that only the "misguided few" support Abu-Jamal's request for a new trial. As you know, this case has the interest of millions around the world. Among the multitudes of "misguided few" who have studied the case, and who have publicly called for a new trial are noted authors Noam Chomsky, Howard Zinn, Maya Angelou, Manning Marable, Alice Walker, Salman Rushdie, former political prisoners Geronimo Pratt, Angela Davis, and South African President Nelson Mandela. Also supporting Abu-Jamal are former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, artists Ossie Davis and Pete Seeger, religious leader Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa and Holocaust expert Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel. Also among those supporting a new trial are civil rights leaders Julian Bond and Coretta Scott King, widow of Martin Luther King, Jr. The TESC class of 1999 is in good company.

Among the organizations which have publicly supported a new trial are the European Parliament, the International Parliament of Writers, the National Black Police Association, Amnesty International, The African National Congress, and unions representing hundreds of thousands of workers, nationally and internationally.

Why would these esteemed individuals and respected organizations support the call for a new trial? After careful examination, they have come to the conclusion that, at best, the original trial of Abu-Jamal was seriously flawed by judicial and/or prosecutorial misconduct, or at worst, Abu-Jamal was framed for political reasons. It is disingenuous to suggest that these and other "misguided few" are extraordinarily ignorant or are deliberately causing harmful mischief by supporting a "convicted cop killer." It is also the gravest violation of free speech for your organization to demand that his important voice be silenced so that others can not make their own judgements. The Philadelphia police may have silenced his voice on NPR, but it will not succeed here.

Abu-Jamal was fraudulently convicted and framed and has never been convicted on evidence beyond a "reasonable doubt."

Abu-Jamal's case raises the specter of the 12 persons who have been released from death row in Illinois because others have been able to prove their innocence (including at least one who was saved because of the work of college students), and the 75 who have been proven innocent and released in the U.S. since it reinstated the death penalty in the 1970's. How many others, who are innocent, are now on death row? How many others have been executed?

As your organization knows, Abu-Jamal was personally targeted by Mayor Frank Rizzo of Philadelphia and by the COINTELPRO program of the FBI. Abu-Jamal is a political prisoner in the tradition of Angela Davis and Nelson Mandela. Like them, he is very controversial but also considered an international hero by many, because of his activities in the Black community before and during his imprisonment-not for any crime that he was "convicted" of. If he is executed two tragedies will occur: a man who has not been proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt will be executed and the killer of officer Faulkner will likely never be brought to justice.

Like the graduation speaker of seven years ago, imprisoned Native American leader Leonard Peltier (who also supports Abu-Jamal), the issues around him are more important than one person. The issues include a criminal justice system where people of color are systematically imprisoned and executed disproportionate to their numbers and the validity of the death penalty itself. The current rate of incarceration for males of African descent in the U.S. is four times that of South Africa under the worst days of Apartheid. The issues include basic fundamental justice for a man, a people, and a nation. We are very proud of the class of 1999, as it prepares to enter the "real world," and in fact is already part of that world.

Sincerely, Concerned Faculty and Staff: Lawrence J. Mosqueda, Peter Bohmer, Jeanne Hahn, Laurie Meeker, Angela Gilliam, Lin Nelson, Anne Fischel, Sarah Ryan, Ruth Hayes, Peter Dorman, Arun Chandra, Michael Vavrus, Helen Lee, Jacinta McKoy, Wendy Ortiz, Paquita Garatea; Alumni: Amy Dread, Jess Grant; Community: Tom Bernard, John Regan, Mike Betz

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Book Review

Against All Odds: The Green Transformation of American Politics

Greg Thompson

John Rensenbrink, Leopold Press, Inc., P.O. Box 1237, Raymond, Maine 04071-1237, 144 pp., $19.95.

John Rensenbrink, former Maine Green Party Senatorial candidate, has written a book that offers something for both the political novice and the experienced Green Party activist.

In *Against All Odds*, Rensenbrink addresses the shortcomings of America's current political system, reveals the philosophical underpinnings of the Green movement and recounts the history of the Greens in America since their beginnings in 1984. That history has been fraught with a divisive ideological schism that has crippled the Green's ability to form one national organization.

He decries the "profound skepticism if not cynicism, about government politics, the state and public life in general." He calls this attitude the "Great Pejorative". He hails politics as "the only real alternative to warfare invented by human beings..." He cites the bloodless demise of Communist regimes in Eastern Europe and the non-violent end of apartheid in South Africa as instructive examples.

Rensenbrink encourages us to get "involved in mainstream political contests in a spirit of engagement and transformation." For him, "Engagement means getting out of the sandbox of ideological purity and plunging into the task of serious organizing, raising money and schooling oneself about the nature of power."

Rensenbrink deplores the "steady leaking away of accountability... where no one is any longer "to blame" for anything, and life in Washington just happily blunders along." The pool of candidates from which the two parties draw their presidential nominees is likened to the Soviet "Nomenklatura". The "Nomenklatura" was the list of acceptable candidates kept by Communist party officials from which all important government positions were filled. The two major institutions which should have acted as a counter to corporate power, the press and the political parties, have themselves "come under the domination of the economic and political power of a homogenous capitalist minority."

In a chapter called Realigning Economy and Ecology the author calls for the elevation of environment from issue to *Policy*. Just as the military budget and economic growth have been *Policy*, not subject to any serious debate, except on the size of the mountain of money to be spent on them, the environment should also be a *Policy*. Greens should not be content to fight merely through pressure group activity, rear-guard court actions, and through mediation to stop pollution here or there, but must address the public *Policy* geared toward inherently wasteful and polluting production and consumption patterns.

Commenting on Sustainability, Rensenbrink says, "Through human technologies and by the application of human labor, both physical and intellectual, the elements and properties of nature are worked up into capital and culture. Thus, land, or rather nature, is the primary category, and such other important categories as labor and capital and culture are dependent on the category of nature." This leads to his observation that, "The spirit of the human lost its moorings in the realities of earth and cosmos and began to roam homeless through the creations and recreations of its own brain." Reflecting on the recent speculative run up in the stock markets, I cannot help but agree. As a remedy, Rensenbrink recommends, "bringing economy into a relationship to ecology whereby economy is a subset of ecology instead of ecology being a subset of economy."

In the chapter "Redefining Progress", the former Fulbright scholar criticizes the concept of the Gross National Product as inaccurate and misleading. The work of the household, for example, is not included. Destroying valuable farmland for a shopping mall, or stimulating people to use yet more energy in order to show more profits for the utility is growth! He rejects the rules of the old economics such as economy of scale and comparative advantage, pointing out that these concepts, "have pushed business toward bigness, bureaucracy, overspecialization and monoculture. He calls for a move toward regionalization, decentralization, variety and quality. Rensenbrink, a Minnesota native, states that virtually all Greens agree that, "the giant corporation as a central unit of the economy is both undemocratic and ecologically unsound." The Green way of thinking differs from the typical left thinking in that it asks not who owns what, but how wealth is created. The industrial mode of production, whether run by comrades or capitalists, is rejected. If public ownership is considered, they favor community-run enterprises. The concept of nationalization does not appeal to Greens.

Rensenbrink, who received a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Chicago, says the failure of both capitalist and socialist industrial societies to solve the problem of poverty in spite of rising levels of social wealth and capacity for greater production is obvious. Both Capitalism and Socialism stand accused of social blindness in their pursuit of production. In both systems, the non-postponable needs of life have taken a back seat to luxury goods for the rich and powerful and to military armament. A socially just *Policy* requires that the non-postponable needs of citizens (housing, clothing, food, water, air, physical security, transportation, education and energy), must be provided for first, given the limited substance of nature. Thus, regardless of whether the system is capitalist or socialist, huge centralized corporations and enormous government-owned industries are unacceptable.

The Green way of thinking differs from the typical left thinking in that it asks not who owns what, but how wealth is created. The industrial mode of production, whether run by comrades or capitalists, is rejected.

Further defining the unique Green approach toward social issues is Rensenbrink's call for the flowering of a better and deeper public life. He writes, "A Green kind of argument is that of course we are our sisters' and brother's keeper, and that of course governments are poor instruments at best to "enforce" such keeping." Problems involving drug abuse, or abortion, or divorce, or pornography are very relationship oriented. He encourages methods of peer-counseling, mediation and arbitration outside the sphere of law and government."

Rensenbrink identifies several areas of importance to Greens: educational work, building alternative institutions, direct action and demonstrations, electoral work, citizen action, multicultural work, special caucuses for young people, alternative journalism and the exploring of vision and values. He suggests these activities to take the Greens beyond the politics of protest to transformation into a "party of a different kind." He says that party must be organized "in a manner that prefigures the kind of society you say you want to bring into being." That sentiment was aptly expressed by the Kansas City Greens in late 1989. Their slogan of "Think globally. Party locally!" summarizes the Green approach to political organizing.

Rensenbrink says the early U.S. Greens adopted the name "Committees of Correspondence", a term used by dissenting church groups in England after the Reformation. The "Committees of Correspondence" is also the name of the network that was set up to exchange views and coordinate the political action that led to the American Revolution. The rebels followed the advice of the Penacock and Iroquois confederacies to have a movement grounded in and controlled by strong local units.

The Ten Key Values which define the U.S. Green Movement were developed at the first national gathering in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1984. The European Greens had already developed the four pillars of *Ecological Wisdom*, *Social Responsibility*, *Nonviolence* and *Grassroots Democracy*. The U.S. Greens renamed *Social Responsibility* as *Personal and Social Responsibility*, and added *Community Economics*, *Respect for Diversity*, *Post-Patriarchal Values*, *Decentralization*, Global Responsibility and Future Focus/Sustainability.

(Continued next page)

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Greens are identified by the author as mostly middle class, earning less than other college educated members of their age group. They are likely to have reduced their commitment to their job and adopted a low income life-style in order to carry on the struggle for Green values and politics. They are distinguished from many others in their recognition that a rich and dominant oligarchy does actually exist. Therefore, to dwell upon the income and status differences among the middle stratum is a pointless and politically stupid practice. Their concern is about the terrible conditions of the underclass.

Much of the discussion deals with the two opposing tendencies, one toward vangardism and the other toward co-optation. The "Iron Law of Oligarchy", that says achieving electoral success always comes at the cost of the sacrifice of principles, keeps the new disciples of "soft vangardism" on alert. Witness the recent British Labor Party, most of the American Labor movement and many social democratic parties in Europe and Latin America. To prevent that from happening to the U.S. Green Party, Rensenbrink sees the need for a nondirective cultural companion to the electoral branch. That companion branch is, "on the one hand interpreting the actions of the Party to the general populace, thereby helping to soften, if not overcome, the anti-political cynicism of the prevailing culture; and on the other hand fearlessly critiquing the Party and its actions in a constructive spirit." This is an approach that would set the Green Party apart from the two U.S. corporate parties in that the rank and file members would have a voice within the party leadership.

The need for such a cultural companion seems clear in light of the actions of the German Green leadership in supporting the NATO bombing of Yugoslavia. At a recent special Green congress held in Bielelfeld on May 13, 42% of the membership voted to cease bombing immediately and unconditionally. The alternate proposal for a provisional halt to the bombings aimed at facilitating negotiations was approved by 58%. Whether the German Greens can continue as members of the ruling coalition and still remain true to their values has yet to be determined.

The last part of Rensenbrink's book recounts the last fifteen years of the Green movement and the development of Green electoral activity. The 1996 campaign of Nader and Winona LaDuke is seen as a defining moment for the Greens, demonstrating that they have been more effective in the electoral arena than other major third parties. Their campaign focused on runaway corporate power, the recovery of democracy and the need to overcome the waste, depletion and poisoning of nature.

As mentioned earlier, the Greens have endured a fractious split in national leadership since at least 1991. At a pivotal meeting in Elkins, West Virginia that year, the Greens began to divide into two factions. Those who were movement and direct action oriented became the Greens/Green Party USA (G/GPUSA) and those who wanted to become involved in running candidates went on to form the Association of State Green Parties (ASGP).

From early on in the development of the Green movement there were two competing ideologies. An anarchist-inspired municipalist, social ecology approach was led by Murray Bookchin and his followers, including Brian Tokar and Howie Hawkins. Others, who placed a strong emphasis on ecological wisdom were led by Charlene Spretnak, David Haenke, Lorna Salzman and others. The Bookchin theory was that the domination of human over human led to the domination of human over nature, not the other way around. He and his followers were worried that the Green Movement would turn away from social justice and would begin to devalue human beings in the presumed interest of the animal kingdom, or would become too involved in personal lifestyle issues. The other side, sometimes called the "Deep Ecologists" emphasized the rights and status of nonhuman nature. They felt that the human/nature relationship had to be dealt with first and foremost and only then could the "social" relationship (human-to-human) be ameliorated.

The other issue that has divided the Greens has been over how the national organization would be structured. Specifically, the G/GPUSA has long insisted on a decision making process in which local organizations send representatives to vote on decisions at the national level. The ASGP, however, believes that the national organization should be made up of representatives from state parties, thus the name Association of State Green Parties. Of course this issue is much more complex than that simple explanation, but that is the core of it.

Surprisingly, for a group that has post-patriarchal values (later called feminism) as one of its Key Values, Rensenbrink points to a disturbing tendency by the promoters of the social justice wing to single out women for criticism. It was, he recalls, "a type of criticism that traded on adversarial, antagonistic language and polarizing personal put-down."

At the first Green Gathering in Amherst, Massachusetts, Charlene Spretnak was verbally assaulted, including being called a fascist. This led to Spretnak's withdrawal from an active role in the national Green movement and party building. Sue Conti, a Green fundraiser was also driven from the party after gratuitous criticisms heaped upon her by members of the Left Green Network. Rensenbrink also recalls Christa Slaton, a founder of the Hawaii Greens who left the Green movement entirely after enduring a scathing personal assault from Bookchin and Hawkins at the third Green Gathering in Estes Park, Colorado. Mindy Lorenz, who was involved in the national leadership of the "Committees of Correspondence" and very active in forming the Green Party of California, drew intense fire from members of the Left Green Network and was actually physically assaulted at one of their meetings in Los Angeles. Barbara Rodgers-Hendricks was an elected Green Council delegate from the Florida region. When she attended the Green Council gathering in the fall of 1993, she found herself, the only woman on the council, under heavy verbal abuse from eight men. Rensenbrink writes, "It was, as she later recalled, one of the most bitter and hurtful experiences she had ever endured. She would never go back."

Rensenbrink's strongest criticism for those of the Left Green Network, which was one of the precursors to the G/GPUSA, comes as he recounts the first steps toward an electorally oriented party. He writes, "We were dealing with the fact , as we came gradually to realize, that many people came to the Greens not because they wanted to change the world, but because they wanted a secure home away from home. We were up against a strong sand box mentality."

Rensenbrink finds cause to criticize two of the icons of radical journalism, The Guardian and Z Magazine. He complains that he was described on the pages of the Guardian "not only as an inveterate right-winger but a McCarthyite." He says that his indignant rejoinder to that accusation was not published. He also protests that for years the Left Green leadership of G/GPUSA has had access to the pages of Z Magazine, while the opposition's efforts to respond in the same forum have been turned down.

The last chapter of the book is devoted to the final stages of the separation of the movement and electoral wings of the U.S. Greens. After repeated attempts to unify the national leadership failed, the ASGP held its founding meeting in November of 1996 at Elaine Broadhead's Glenora Farm in Middleburg, Virginia. Representatives from 31 states met for two days. Eleven state Green parties officially joined the new association and Ralph Nader attended on the second day to address an enthusiastic group of Greens and interested locals. Perhaps the ASGP's greatest claim to the national leadership came in January 1999, when the European Federation of Green Parties declared their decision to recognize the Association of State Green Parties as their partners in the United States.

In summing up his endorsement of electoral and political activity Rensenbrink advises, " ...politics, at its most fundamental, is the only real alternative we have to war, the only means we have as human beings to stave off and indeed overcome and transcend war." And, "But if we condemn politics, or ignore it, or leave it to those who are drawn to it for reasons of vanity, greed and hate, then we have missed the message of ecology and we are not going to survive or thrive."

Rensenbrink's account of The Green Transformation of American Politics is an insider's view of the formation of a new political vision for this country. It is one that holds great hope for the effectiveness of traditional Green activities such as direct action and education, but insists on adding electoral activity to the mix. It is a revealing if somewhat disconnected chronicle of the first fifteen years of U.S. Green evolution. For the patient reader there is a wealth of information and ideas. Gracefully, Rensenbrink for the most part refrains from the kind of personal attacks he attributes to others in the social justice wing of the Greens. The history of these early years for the U.S. Greens will only be complete if it is matched by an equally thoughtful and detailed account from someone inside that wing. I eagerly await such a response.

Greg Thomson is a former member of the Iowa City Green Party.

Earth First! Activists Lock Down in Plum Creek HQ

by Leon Janssen

On June 7th at 1:00 PM, Earth First!ers from Olympia and Seattle went into the headquarters of Plum Creek timber company in downtown Seattle. The activists were there demanding to speak to Plum Creek CEO Rick Holley about backing out of the infamous I-90 land exchange between the Forest Service and Plum Creek. Three of the activists locked to each other with Kryptonite bicycle locks to be sure that they were heard that day. They were told that Holley "was out of town that day on vacation". Instead of Holley, the activists were "greeted" by Plum Creek Vice President Bill Brown.

Brown was somewhat concerned at the presence of U-locked activists in the lobby would be disconcerting for visiting Japanese clients. Brown offered to meet with the activists in a nearby room. After an hour of "discussion," Brown agreed in writing to set up a meeting with the group and CEO Holley. No arrests were made at the action although three of the activists remained locked together. The meeting took place on Fri June 11th at 9AM.

The I-90 land exchange would give 17,000 acres public land to Plum Creek. The company would acquire rare roadless low elevation forest in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Two of these roadless areas are Watch Mountain near Randle, WA and Fossil Creek near Mount Saint Helens National Volcanic Monument. Throughout the negotiations for the exchange the public had very little say in the process. This culminated last fall with the passage of Sen. Slade Gorton's last minute rider to the omnibus appropriations which legislated the land exchange. Plum Creek used heavy handed tactics such as threatening to log in sensitive areas in order to ensure a quick resolution to the deal.

Plum Creek is the great grandchild of Northern Pacific Railroad. In 1864, Congress gave Northern Pacific 40,000,000 acres of public land originally taken from the natives. Northern Pacific was to use the acquired lands to build railroads in through the west in order to "settle" the western states. Northern Pacific was in turn supposed to resell the lands back to the settlers for $2.50 an acre. Most of the lands were never sold back as Northern Pacific spun off into resource extracting companies which in turn eventually gave birth to Plum Creek in 1989.

Plum Creek, also known as the "Darth Vader" of the timber industry for its clearcutting along I-90, is notorious for its logging practices. Plum Creek currently has more land exchanges in the works than any other timber company.

We are at a critical point right now! The deeds are scheduled to change hands on July 18th. If this happens, re-acquisition of these lands should be a top priority. Funds exist for the acquisition of sensitive lands through the little used Land and Water Conservation Fund. NO COMPROMISE!

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Stun belt - cranking up the cruelty

Amnesty International

The increasing use of the electro-shock stun belts and other stun weapons in the USA is ratcheting up the level of cruelty tolerated in the country's response to crime, Amnesty International said today, launching a new report.

"As the number of inmates in US prisons and jails continues to spiral,

the threat of severe electro-shock to control their behaviour is

becoming commonplace," Amnesty International said, "The stun belt is also increasingly bringing cruelty into courtrooms across the country."

Amnesty International's report includes recent allegations of torture and ill-treatment with such weapons in local jails, state prisons and private facilities.

"Electricity has been one of the torturer's favoured tools in the second half of the 20th century," Amnesty International said. "The USA's growing use of high-tech stun weapons dangerously blurs the line between torture and legitimate prisoner control techniques."

The report names more than 130 US jurisdictions believed to have the stun belt, a device which can subject its wearer to an eight-second 50,000 volt electric shock by remote control. It is mainly used on inmates perceived to be a security risk during trial or transportation.

The stun belt is one weapon among a growing array of electro-shock devices used by police and prison agencies across the USA. Others devices include the stun gun, stun shield and taser. The latter, which gained global notoriety in the 1991 Rodney King beating, transmits an electric shock to its human target via barb-tipped wires.

"Among electro-shock weapons, the use of the stun belt, even when not activated, violates international human rights law," Amnesty International stressed.

The belt caused an international outcry in 1998 when Californian defendant Ronnie Hawkins was electro-shocked in open court for repeatedly interrupting the judge. His subsequent lawsuit led to a federal court ban on the belt in Los Angeles County. The county's appeal against this ban will be heard in court in late June.

Since Amnesty International wrote its report, the federal government, itself a big stun belt user, has filed a special petition - an amicus curiae brief - supporting Los Angeles County in its efforts to overturn the ban. Amnesty International will present its own amicus to the court.

"The stun belt is a weapon that is worn by its victim," Amnesty International explained. "To be effective, it relies on the wearer's fear of the severe pain and humiliation that could follow activation. Such fear is a leading component of the mental suffering of a victim of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment which is banned under international law."

Characteristically, the US government ignores international standards in its amicus brief, and argues instead that the stun belt meets its own domestic criteria. It contends that the belt has been activated on thousands of officers, does not cause "excruciating pain", and is medically safe, pointing to promotional material issued by the main manufacturer, Stun Tech.

"As part of their training in the use of the Stun Tech belt, officers can volunteer to receive a shock from it," Amnesty International said. "They wear it for a few minutes, and are able to prepare for the shock. That cannot be compared to a prisoner being forced to wear a belt, often for hours at a time, never knowing if it might be activated, deliberately or by accident."

Amnesty International points out that Stun Tech video footage of officers receiving electro-shocks dispels the myth that the stun belt does not cause severe pain, adding that the company's claims for the safety of stun weapons stem from tests conducted on anaesthetized pigs.

Proponents of the stun belt, including the federal government, say that it is worn only by the highest risk inmates, and is an effective way to prevent escape or acts of violence.

"Effectiveness must not be the only criterion," argues Amnesty International. "If a company invented a vest of razor wire, which could be made to automatically tighten on its wearer, and promoted it as an "effective" way to restrain prisoners, would we sanction its use? No, because international standards demand that humanity be a part of the equation."

'The USA's growing use of high-tech stun weapons dangerously blurs the line between torture and legitimate prisoner control techniques.'

Furthermore, evidence is emerging that use of the stun belt is not being reserved for maximum security inmates, but that it is becoming more routine in some jurisdictions. Amnesty International cites the use of stun belts during the transportation to hospital of low and medium security prisoners held in a special segregation unit in New Orleans.

"Given that the prisoners are held in this unit because of their HIV status," said Amnesty International, "it appears that they are being arbitrarily subjected to the stun belt because of their medical condition and not their security status." The stun belt is also used on medium security prison work crews in Wisconsin.

Even children are not exempted from the stun belt Amnesty International said, citing the case of two 17-year-olds recently made to wear the belt at their pre-trial hearings. "Perhaps it should come as no surprise that the country which leads the world in executing child offenders, tolerates a device which threatens them with pain and humiliation at the touch of a button."

Amnesty International, International Secretariat, 1 Easton Street, WC1X 8DJ, London, United Kingdom

Books to Prisoners July Events

- Open drop in work/training sessions every Thurs. 3-9 pm in the back of Bulldog News. *Training takes 1 hour. Once you are trained you can work anytime Bulldog is open.*
- **BTP Volunteer Potluck** - 3rd Sun. of the month (July 18th), 3 pm at 116 E. 4th Ave, Olympia
- Turn in Bayview and Ralph's receipts. B to P receives 1%. Please send to the address below.
- **Save UPC code from Western Family Products &** send to B to P, 116 E 4th Ave, Olympia, WA 98501

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SEE PAGE 2

Books To Prisoner Page

Supreme Court Rules Chicago's Loitering Law Unconstitutional

CHICAGO -- The American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois and the Cook County Public Defender's office praised today's U.S. Supreme Court decision in City of Chicago v. Jesus Morales, et. al., striking down as unconstitutional Chicago's "anti-gang loitering" ordinance, as a meaningful victory for young men of color in Chicago and across the nation.

Between 1992 and 1995, Chicago police made 45,000 arrests of mostly African-Americans and Latino males under the ordinance. Many were not gang members. Some were arrested for nothing more threatening than standing in front of their own home.

Speaking for the Supreme Court majority in finding the ordinance unconstitutional and unenforceable, Justice John Paul Stevens criticized the broad sweep and vagueness of the ordinance and its failure to provide the constitutionally required minimal guidelines to govern law enforcement.

"The mandatory language in the enactment directs the police to issue and order without first making any inquiry about their possible purposes," Stevens wrote. "It matters not whether the reason that a gang member and his father, for example, might loiter near Wrigley Field is to rob an unsuspecting fan or just to get a glimpse of Sammy Sosa leaving the ballpark; in either event, if their purpose is not apparent to a nearby police officer, she may -- indeed, she 'shall' -- order them to disperse."

The "anti-gang loitering" ordinance was enacted in 1992 and immediately challenged by the ACLU and the Cook County Public Defender's Office in the Circuit Court of Cook County. In 1995, the Illinois Appellate Court found the law unconstitutional and enjoined its application. In 1997, the Illinois Supreme Court upheld the appellate court and unanimously ruled that the law was unconstitutional.

© American Civil Liberties Union, 1999.

Attention Prisoners

***W.I.P.* seeks articles, artwork (black and white is best) from those in prison.**

BOOKS TO PRISONERS MAY BE LOOKING FOR A NEW PLACE TO DO ITS WORK. ANY IDEAS?

(Street Party, continued)

back to the park (in the road of course) and continued the party there for quite some time. Who knows how long the street party could have went?

On 4th, some people picked up most of the garbage and a few separate attempts were made to sweep up the confetti and feathers (someone had emptied a large bag of feathers during the party) but the wind kept blowing it all around so it was near impossible. Many people around downtown thought the party was awesome, while some were annoyed or misunderstood the message.

The event made the headline on the cover of Sunday's *Olympian* and included a nice photo, some good quotes from party participants and a quote from the owner of the Spar about how terrible it was and how people couldn't get into his business (not true) and how he had to send employees home because it slowed business. It also was awarded the coveted "Thumbs Down" in the following week's *Olympian* editorial, which gave the police the credit to wait the partiers out.

What's next?

Organizers of the street party (members of a (dis-)organization cleverly named "Reclaim the Streets") are now directing efforts towards:

1) Learning from this experiment so to begin planning the next one: better, bigger and more subversive.

2) Setting up a community forum, perhaps at the Capitol Theater. The forum will consist of: a) showing of "Reclaim the Streets: The Movie," an excellent flick about the evolution of the theory and practice (and the praxis) of the street festival movement, primarily in the United Kingdom, and its recent worldwide explosion. b) Presentation of video footage, photography, personal testimonies, fliers and stickers from the recent Olympia Street Party. c) Presentation and discussion about the ideas and practice of 'reclaim the streets' and how they differ from (and are a living critique of) the authoritarian, spectacular, boring, alienated and generally ineffective methods of social change used by many "activists" and "revolutionaries."

It is hoped this forum will take place in the near future. Keep an eye out for it.

Briefs, continued

ordinary working class people have actually got a culture and artistic merit. This flies against the vested interests of those who would have us believe that the poor are poor because they are stupid."

Participatory economics workshops

This summer, the Olympia chapter of the Welfare Rights Organizing Coalition plans to sponsor a free series of participatory economics workshops that will be open to the entire community and that we hope will lead to a process of cooperative learning, discussion, and organizing for social justice.

"Corporate Power and the American Dream: Toward an Economic Agenda for Working People" is a series of workshops designed to bring people together to explore the economic and environmental crises that we are facing, to develop proposals for addressing them, and to train participants to become "worker-educators" who are able to conduct workshops for others. The workshops were created by organizers and teachers working with unions and with the Labor Party.

The problems that we are facing are probably familiar to most readers of *Works in Progress*: Despite steady economic growth, real wages for low-income workers in Washington State are barely increasing after falling dramatically through the late 1970's and 1980's, working conditions and hours are becoming increasingly harsh, and poverty rates in Washington remain about the same. The poverty rate for children in Washington was around 15% in 1995, slightly higher than in 1989, when it was around 14.5%. For many people, poverty is becoming deeper, as the government cuts public benefits and imposes work requirements on welfare recipients. This July, Washington State will demand that single parents who are receiving welfare benefits—mainly single mothers—return to work when their children are three months old. Economic collapses throughout the world, which the World Bank and International Monetary Fund promised would be temporary, seem to be permanent features of the new economic order; and an increasing number of people are coming from Mexico and other countries to seek work in communities like Shelton and Centralia, where, as undocumented immigrants, they are denied basic human rights. The ecological crises that we are facing seem overwhelming-climate change, the exhaustion of resources, the increasing pervasiveness of toxic waste.... At the same time, according to an article in the May 10th edition of the *Seattle Times*: "a computer analysis of [the construction of new] single-family homes with more than 10,000 square feet indicates the Seattle area is going through its biggest megahouse splurge ever, reflecting wealth accumulation that hasn't been seen since the turn of the last century."

What is going on in our economy? How are decisions about our economic and social policies made? Whose interests do they reflect, and how do they affect our lives and the lives of people around the world? How can we begin to understand the complex problems that we face and to gain democratic control over the decisions that affect us?

The workshops use the "Small Group Activity Method." Instead of asking people to listen to lectures, they put "the learner in the center of the workshop." According to the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers union, "Participants are put to work in the workshop, solving real-life problems, building upon their own skills and experiences....We learn by doing." In each workshop, participants work in groups of five or six people to complete a set of tasks-to respond to statements, to answer questions, and to make judgements on key issues. Each group selects one member to take notes and to report back to the entire workshop; after the groups complete their work, the report-back person explains to the entire group how they dealt with the problems and what conclusions they drew. The workshop is then thrown open to general discussion. Finally the trainer summarizes the discussion, restating key points, highlighting unresolved questions, and suggesting perspectives that have not been covered. We hope that the workshops will be valuable for people with widely varying backgrounds and knowledge of history, politics, and economics. Rita Shaw, a member of the Labor Party in Seattle who has been an organizer and activist for several decades, will be the facilitator.

Some of the issues that the workshops will address include: income inequality and wealth distribution, unions, wage regulations, welfare and other social benefits, taxes, international trade, and finance, and immigration. We will focus in particular on issues facing low-income parents in Southwestern Washington.

We would like to be able to repeat these workshops or to create new ones whenever needed. Our main goal is to help people to gain confidence in their ability to work together to understand and shape the world, and we hope that the process that the workshops use will be useful in many different contexts. In the long term, we believe that a social justice movement with the ability to create large-scale changes in the way our society works cannot emerge without an enormous amount of public education and discussion.

There will be nine or ten workshops, each lasting between 2 and 4 hours. We will provide free childcare at each session. People are welcome to attend any of the workshops that they are interested in, but we are hoping to gather together at least a small group of people who can commit to attending most or all of them and to learning how to facilitate the workshops themselves. We have not yet planned a schedule-please let us know if you are interested in attending so that we can make a schedule that meets the needs of the largest number of people possible. We are hoping to begin late in June.

If you would like to come to the workshops, or you have any questions or suggestions, please call WROC at (360)352-9716, or write to us at wrocoly@juno.com.

Community Strategic Training Initiative

July 29th - August 1st, 1999. Western States Center's 9th Annual - Community Strategic Training Initiative (CSTI) - Reed College, Portland, Oregon.

Join hundreds of grassroots leaders & organizers for our days of intensive, diversified training in community organizing, organizational development, key movement issues, non-profit management & leadership. CSTI is a skills building event for leaders & staff of organizations committed to a society free of racism, sexism, homophobia, economic exploitation & all other forms of oppression. CSTI trains organizers working on economic, social & environmental justice, human rights & community development in both urban & rural communities.

For more information about CSTI &/or Western States Center see http://www.epn.org/westernstates or contact Alanna at 503-228-8866 or alannam@wscpdx.org.

American Radical Gathering

1999 American Radical Gathering September 18 & 19, 1999 Athens, Georgia

Building a 21st Century Movement of Resistance through Nonviolence

Featuring David Dellinger, Bobby Seale, David Sanchez, and representatives from the National Latina/o Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Organization, Katuah Earth First!, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Anti-Dairy Coalition, and other national activist organizations

National Activist Conference Update:

The Athens city government is providing a parking lot on West Washington Street for organizations attending the national activist conference to have tables. Your organization can reserve a supplied table by sending in your $15 registration fee and an additional $20 for the supplied table. Your group can sell items and distribute information.

The parking lot is near the two sites for the conference, the Quality Building and the historic Morton Theatre. Also taking place just down the street will be the free 1st Annual Edward Wright Memorial Afrocentric Festival on Saturday, September 18, from noon to midnight.

For more information about the national activist conference, check out the website:

www.homestead.com/amradgathering
Email: amradgathering@hotmail.com
Phone: (706) 543-3026

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR / STAFF ORGANIZER

Responsibilities include planning, coordination, and follow-through with all aspects of fund raising such as foundation grants, phone banks, direct mail appeals, and benefit events. Work as a member of a collective to ensure organizational and volunteer development. Help develop materials and conduct outreach to support our ongoing projects and campaigns. Fundraising and social justice organizing experience preferred. Twenty-five hours per week, benefits, paid vacation, $10/hr. Former prisoners, women, people of color, LGBT encouraged to apply. Send or fax resume with writing sample and references by 16 July 1999 to:

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photo by Kathy Strauss

1

Olympia's Street Party & TESC Graduation with Mumia and the Police + Keeping The Police Accountable

4

The Kosovo War: Who Won? & What's To Be Done Now?

5

U.S. Navy Kills In Puerto Rico

6

TESC & Mumia

8

Bookreview: Against All Odds

10

Prison Interest Page

photo by Kim Pohlman

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